

Message Text

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ACTION SS-20

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3607

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 2522

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (RUSH, KENNETH), NL

SUBJ: DRAFT ARRIVAL STATEMENT

REF: THE HAGUE 2374

AS PROMISED PARA 8 REFTEL FOLLOWING IS DRAFT ARRIVAL
STATEMENT FOR DEP SEC'S CONSIDERATION. BEGIN TEXT:

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE FOR MRS. RUSH AND ME TO
RETURN TO THE NETHERLANDS, WHICH WE LAST VISITED WHEN
I WAS SERVING AS U.S. AMBASSADOR TO BONN.

I WELCOME THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SALUTE A STEADFAST
AND VALUABLE ALLY. IN THIS TIME OF CHANGE AND
UNCERTAINTY, THE DUTCH ARE A FIRM ANCHOR TO WINDWARD.
THE TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS ARE ALMOST TWO
CENTURIES OLD. DURING THIS PERIOD WHICH COVERS THE
ENTIRE NATIONAL EXISTENCE OF THE UNITED STATES, WE
HAVE DEVELOPED A RELATIONSHIP OF MUTUAL RESPECT AND
TRUST BASED ON OUR COMMON COMMITMENT TO FREEDOM AND
PROGRESS. FOR THE LAST QUARTER OF A CENTURY, WE HAVE
BEEN PARTNERS IN THE NATO ALLIANCE WHICH HAS FULLY
GUARANTEED THE SECURITY OF ALL OF ITS MEMBERS. THE
SUCCESS OF THIS ALLIANCE HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE TO EXPLORE
THE POSSIBILITIES OF BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND DETENTE
WITH EASTERN EUROPE. WHILE THE ALLIES ARE COOPERATING
FULLY IN THE NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY IN GENEVA AND VIENNA,
IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE MAINTAIN THE STRONG AND UNITED
DEFENSE POSTURE WHICH OPENED THE WAY TO DETENTE.

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DURING THE PAST YEAR OF SPECIAL TRIALS AND CHALLENGES, THE UNITED STATES AND THE NETHERLANDS HAVE WORKED CLOSELY TOGETHER. MY GOVERNMENT IS GRATEFUL FOR THE OUTSTANDING SUPPORT THE NETHERLANDS GAVE THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE AND FOR ITS IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK OF THE ENERGY ACTION COORDINATING GROUP. WE DEEPLY APPRECIATE THE NETHERLANDS' EFFORT TO INSURE- AS FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL SAID IN ROTTERDAM LAST MARCH-THAT EUROPEAN UNITY AND CONTINUED ATLANTIC COOPERATION PROCEED IN HARMONY AND NOT IN CONFLICT.

I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO MY MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL, WITH WHOM I HAD A MOST INTERESTING DISCUSSION DURING OUR LUNCHEON IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT LAST SEPTEMBER. I AM ALSO LOOKING FORWARD TO MY MEETINGS WITH YOUR PRIME MINISTER, MR. DEN UYL, AND DEFENSE MINISTER VREDELING. SINCE THERE ARE NO BILATERAL ISSUES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, WE WILL BE ABLE IN OUR DISCUSSIONS TO CONCENTRATE ON THE FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS OF PEACE, DETENTE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN WHICH THE COUNTRIES OF WESTERN EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE A COMMON STAKE.

I AM DELIGHTED AT THIS OCCASION TO VISIT HERE AND KNOW THAT I WILL LEAVE THIS EVEING WITH A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR GOVERNMENT'S POINT OF VIEW AND AN EVEN KEENER APPRECIATION OF YOUR REMARKABLE COUNTRY.

THANK YOU.

END TEXT.
GOULD

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